

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Application of:  
Jing MA et al.

Serial No.: To be assigned

Filed: Filed herewith

For: METHOD AND COMPOSITION FOR  
DIAGNOSIS OF MELANOCYTIC  
LESIONS

Group Art Unit: To be assigned

Examiner: To be assigned

San Diego, California 92101  
July 26, 2001

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Dear Sir:

Preliminary to examination, Applicant makes the following amendments.

**CERTIFICATE OF EXPRESS MAILING**

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service Express Mail Service (Label no. EL 904 934 864 US) on the date shown below with sufficient postage in an envelope addressed to: Box PATENT APPLICATION, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Date of Deposit: July 26, 2001

Signature:

Karen M. Cruz

In the Amended Specification

On page 1, after the title of the invention please insert the following: --This is a continuation of application Serial No. 09/451,353, filed December 1, 1999, entitled: METHOD AND COMPOSITION FOR DIAGNOSIS OF MELANOCYTIC LESIONS, which is incorporated herein by reference in its entirety.--

In the Claims

Please amend claims 1, 7, 8, 12 and 18 as follows:

In claim 1, lines 3 and 7, please change each occurrence of "No. 12588" to --No. HB-12588--.

In claim 7, lines 3 and 7, please change each occurrence of "No. 12588" to --No. HB-12588--.

In claim 8, lines 5 and 9, please change each occurrence of "No. 12588" to --No. HB-12588--.

In claim 12, second line, please change "second" to --secondary--.

In claim 18, line 3, please change "number HB12588" to --No. HB-12588--.

REMARKS

Applicant herewith submits a Continuation application together with this Preliminary Amendment.

This is a Continuation of co-pending U.S. patent application Serial No. 09/451,353, filed December 1, 1999. It is respectfully submitted that the Application is now in condition for allowance.

CONCLUSION

Should the Examiner have any questions, the Examiner is invited to telephone the undersigned. Although it is believed no additional fees are due, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any deficiencies from or credit any overpayment to our deposit account No. 02-0410 (Baker & McKenzie).

Respectfully submitted,



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